

SECTION II

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INTRODUCTION

Forage suitability groups (FSGs) are composed of one or more individual soil map units having similar potentials and limitations for forage production. Soils within a forage production suitability group are sufficiently uniform to:

- Support the same adapted forage plants under the same management conditions;
- Require similar conservation treatment and management to produce the forages selected in the quality and quantity desired; and
- Have comparable potential productivity.

FSGs are described in the National Range and Pasture Handbook, Chapter 3, Section 2. They are interpretative narratives providing the soil and plant science basis for planning individual tracts of grazing land where detailed soil mapping has been done. FSG narratives state which limitations are present and their severity, associated management problems, and conservation and management practices needed to overcome the limitations. FSGs are established for each Major Land Resource Area (MLRA) having significant forage production.

Forage suitability groups have not been developed in California. Contact the State Agronomist for further assistance on potential development.